(3) At least once each week, but not exceeding 7 days between pressure tests, alternating between control stations and pods. If either control station or pod is not functional, further drilling operations shall be suspended until that system becomes operable. A period of more than 7 days between BOP tests is allowed when there is stuck drill pipe or pressure-control operations and remedial efforts are being performed, provided that the pressure tests are conducted as soon as possible and before normal operations resume. The reason for postponing pressure testing shall be entered into the driller's report. Pressure testing shall be performed at intervals to allow each drilling crew to operate the equipment. The weekly pressure test is not required for blind and blind-shear rams.

(4) Blind and blind-shear rams shall be actuated at least once every 7 days. Closing pressure on the blind and blind-shear rams greater than that necessary to indicate proper operation of the rams is not required.

(5) Variable bore-pipe rams shall be pressure-tested against all sizes of pipe in use, excluding drill collars and bottom-hole tools.

(6) Following the disconnection or repair of any well-pressure containment seal in the wellhead/BOP stack assembly but limited to the affected component.

(f) All BOP systems and marine risers shall be inspected and maintained to assure that the equipment will function properly. The BOP systems and marine risers shall be visually inspected at least once each day if the weather and sea conditions permit the inspection. Inspection of BOP systems and marine risers may be accomplished by the use of television equipment. The District Supervisor may approve alternate methods of inspection of marine risers on dynamic-positioned rigs. Casing risers on fixed structures and jackup rigs are not subject to the daily underwater inspection requirement.

(g) The lessee shall record pressure conditions during BOP tests on pressure charts, unless otherwise approved by the District Supervisor. The test interval for each BOP component tested shall be sufficient to demonstrate that the component is effectively holding pressure. The charts shall be certified as correct by the operator's representative at the facility.

(h) The time, date, and results of all pressure tests, actuations, and inspections of the BOP system, system components, and marine risers shall be recorded in the driller's report. The BOP tests shall be documented in accordance with the following:

(1) The documentation shall indicate the sequential order of BOP and auxiliary equipment testing and the pressure and duration of each test. As an alternate, the documentation in the driller's report may reference a BOP test plan that contains the required information and is retained on file at the facility.

(2) The control station used during the test shall be identified in the driller's report. For a subsea system, the pod used during the test shall be identified in the driller's report.

(3) Any problems or irregularities observed during BOP and auxiliary equipment testing and any actions taken to remedy such problems or irregularities shall be noted in the driller's report.

(4) Documentation required to be entered in the driller's report may instead be referenced in the driller's report. All records including pressure charts, driller's report, and referenced documents pertaining to BOP tests, actuations, and inspections, shall be available for MMS review at the facility for the duration of the drilling activity. Following completion of the drilling activity, all such records shall be retained for a period of 2 years at the facility, at the lessee's field office nearest the OCS facility, or at another location conveniently available to the District Supervisor.

[53 FR 10690, Apr. 1, 1988, as amended at 56 FR 1914, Jan. 18, 1991]

§ 250.58 Well-control drills.

(a) Well-control drills shall be conducted for each drilling crew in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) Drills shall be designed to acquaint each crew member with each member's function at the particular test station so each member can perform their functions promptly and efficiently.

(2) A well-control drill plan, applicable to the particular site, shall be prepared for each crew member outlining the assignments each member is to fulfill during the drill and establishing a prescribed time for the completion of each portion of the drill. A copy of the complete well-control drill plan shall be posted on the rig floor and/or bulletin board.

(3) The drill shall be carried out during periods of activity selected to minimize the risk of sticking the drill pipe or otherwise endangering the operation. In each of these drills, the reaction time of participants shall be measured up to the point when the designated person is prepared to activate the closing sequence of the BOP system. The total time for the crew to complete its entire drill assignment shall also be measured. This operation shall be recorded on the driller's report as ''Well-Control Drill.'' All drills shall be initiated by the toolpusher through the raising of the float on the pit-level device, activating the mud-return indicator, or its equivalent. This operation shall be performed at least once each week (well conditions permitting) with each crew. The drills shall be timed so they will cover a range of different operations which include on-bottom drilling and tripping. A diverter drill shall be developed and conducted in a similar manner for shallow operations.

(4) *On-bottom drilling.* A drill conducted while on bottom shall include the following as practicable:

(i) Detect kick and sound alarm;

(ii) Position kelly and tool joints so connections are accessible from floor, but tool joints are clear of sealing elements in BOP systems, stop pumps, check for flow, close in the well;

(iii) Record time;

(iv) Record drill-pipe pressure and casing pressure;

(v) Measure pit gain and mark new level;

(vi) Estimate volume of additional mud in pits;

(vii) Weight sample of mud from suction pit;

(viii) Check all valves on choke manifold and BOP system for correct position (open or closed);

(ix) Check BOP system components and choke manifold for leaks;

(x) Check flow line and choke exhaust lines for flow;

(xi) Check accumulator pressure;

(xii) Prepare to extinguish sources of ignition;

(xiii) Alert standby boat or prepare safety capsule for launching;

(xiv) Place crane operator on duty for possible personnel evacuation;

(xv) Prepare to lower escape ladders and prepare other abandonment devices for possible use;

(xvi) Determine materials needed to circulate out kick; and

(xvii) Time drill and enter drill report on driller's report.

(5) *Tripping pipe.* A drill conducted during a trip shall include the following as practicable:

(i) Detect kick and sound alarm;

(ii) Install safety valve, close safety valve;

(iii) Position pipe, prepare to close annular preventer;

(iv) Install inside preventer, open safety valve;

(v) Record time;

(vi) Record casing pressure;

(vii) Check all valves on choke manifold and BOP system for correct position (open or closed);

(viii) Check for leaks on BOP system component and choke manifold;

(ix) Check flow line and choke exhaust lines for flow;

(x) Check accumulator pressure;

(xi) Prepare to extinguish sources of ignition;

(xii) Alert standby boat or prepare safety capsule for launching;

(xiii) Place crane operator on duty for possible personnel evacuation;

(xiv) Prepare to lower escape ladders and prepare other abandonment devices for possible use;

(xv) Prepare to strip back to bottom; and

(xvi) Time drill and enter drill report on driller's report.

(b) A well-control drill may be required by a Minerals Management Service (MMS) authorized representative after consulting with the lessee's senior representative present.

§ 250.59 Diverter systems.

(a) When drilling a conductor or surface hole, all drilling units shall be